

ZANE GREY SAYS ARMED INTERVENTION IS ONLY HOPE FOR THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO

They Are Unfit to Govern Themselves Without Constant Help, Says Author, and We Owe It to Humanity to Stop Butchery and Rapine

"I CAN see only one hope for the people of Mexico—intervention in force by all the Governments of America, led by the Government of the United States."

That was the conclusion announced by Zane Grey yesterday in an interview with a reporter for THE SUN. Mr. Grey is an author who for years has studied the Mexican situation and who more than two years ago in a public interview predicted the very things that are happening to-day and expressed the hope that some means might possibly be found to avert the struggles that have rent the country and doomed thousands of men and women to suffering and death.

"Do you know what the Mexican people really are?" Mr. Grey asked the reporter. "Do you know they are nine-tenths Indian? Think a moment of what that means."

"We are confronted with a nation of more than 12,000,000—some say they are as many as 15,000,000—of whom nine-tenths are no more civilized than our own red men on the plains. Seventy per cent of the Mexican people are of pure Indian blood, two-tenths, say, are of mixed Spanish and Indian descent and the small remainder are of pure Spanish blood. I should like to emphasize the overwhelming preponderance of Indians in the population, for if we forget them we are apt to think of the Mexicans as a people with whom the nations can deal as they might deal with Germans, Englishmen or Frenchmen. And such a thing of course is impossible."

"The whole State is a mass of savagery, ignorance, indolence and riches, covered with a thin crust of civilization. The common people have been exploited, robbed and oppressed for four centuries. They hate the white man with all their strength, and as we are the nearest white race they hate us most of all. Nevertheless it is our duty to lay aside all resentment and protect them from themselves."

"We owe it to our sense of decency and justice to put an end to the carnival

of plunder, butchery and outrage that has made Mexico a hell on earth during the last year. And in order that there may be no complaint or ground of complaint on the part of our South American neighbors that we are seeking territory or wealth in the afflicted country we ought to ask them to join us in restoring order in Mexico—yes, and in maintaining order, for it is certain that the moment the strong hand of the law is withdrawn revolution and riot will begin again."

"It is unfortunate that so many Americans think of the Mexicans as a civilized people who have suffered long under tyrants and who need only enough help to throw off the yoke of Huerta in order to establish a real republic that shall last. Nothing could be more fantastic than that belief."

"The Mexicans are not fit for self-government without constant help. I am no pessimist, but I am sure that it would require generations of enlightenment and training to enable them to maintain a republic. There is to-day no concrete national idea. The Indians are of various tribes, who have no conception of a commonwealth and who are united only in their hatred of the white man. There is not in that country at present any foundation upon which a self-perpetuating republican government can be built."

"Proud as we are of our own Government, we know that it is full of faults and that we must advance very much further before we realize our best ideals; yet the beginnings of our love of liberty and self-government were apparent in the communities on the Danish peninsula long before the Jutes and Angles began to invade England. The upward struggle and growth have continued without ceasing during many centuries, through the Anglo-Saxon and Norman governments of England, through our own revolution and civil war, and we are still far short of perfection. Then what are we to expect of the scattered, divided, unprincipled tribes of Indians who constitute the mass of the Mexican people?"



Zane Grey on the Paria Plateau, in the Painted Desert, with a Piute Indian.

"Consider their history. The Spaniards four centuries ago fell upon them like a blight, killed and plundered the tribes, destroyed their temples, robbed and outraged the people without mercy. Ever since that time the country has been under the heel of one despot after another. There has been only one plan of government—rule and rob."

"The Indians are full of resentment against their conquerors and the ruling

class, who for centuries have been still as alien as they were in the beginning. Diaz put himself by force in the Presidential chair, made that chair a throne and maintained himself in it by relentless force. During the first fifteen years of his reign he slaughtered every one who dared to oppose him. By the end of that time he had the country so terrified that no one had the courage to raise hand or voice against him."

All Governments of America Should Send Force Into Country, His Plan—Describes Savage, and Resentful Indians Who Make Up Population

"Having terrified the country into good order he developed its riches and material prosperity increased—for a very small proportion of the people. As Diaz developed the country with the aid of foreign capital he exploited it and amassed a fortune whose extent we cannot even guess. Now, driven into exile by the revolution of Madero, he is living abroad in luxury."

Madero could not remain long in power. He was a good man and sincere, inspired by lofty and patriotic ideals, but he was a dreamer. Huerta overthrew him in the regular way—by means of conspiracy and assassination. I have not been recently in Mexico city, but I have reliable information that Huerta is simply filling his pockets and letting things run at loose ends while he stupefies himself with brandy day after day and goes from one carousal to another."

"Meanwhile business is at a standstill, thousands of miles of railroads are idle and the material prosperity established during the last thirty years has been dissipated. The robberies, slaughters, burnings and outrages upon women that are going on meantime under the guise of war are a hideous scandal that should be stopped at once. So many foreigners have lost their lives in Mexico and so much foreign property has been stolen or destroyed that European nations would have come in and pacified the country long ago but for their respect for the Monroe Doctrine. They have kept their hands off out of respect for us. We cannot shirk our responsibility. Every day we delay means one more day of unspeakable atrocities."

"What multiplies the horrors of war and pillage is the innate cruelty of the Mexicans. They love to torture an enemy. Even a favor is often done in a cruel way. You remember the release of the American prisoner Stewart in the last chapter of 'The Light of Western Stars' (Mr. Grey's latest book, in which the scene of action is the Mexican border)."

"Stewart had been sentenced to death

in the mode of the 'ley de fuga'—the law of flight. The sentence was countermanded, and yet Montes, the Mexican leader, could not deny himself the pleasure of torturing both the prisoner and his wife. Montes waves a scarf and says: 'The signal will be seen down at the other end of the road. Senor Stewart's jailer will see the signal, take off Stewart's trons, release him, open the door for his walk. Stewart will be free. But he will not know. He will expect death. As he is a brave man he will face it. He will walk this way. Every step of that walk he will expect to be shot from some unknown quarter. But he will not be afraid. Senora, I have seen El Capitan fighting in the field."

"What is death to him? Ah, will it not be magnificent to see him continue forth—to walk down? Senora, you will see what a man he is. All the way he will expect cold, swift death. Here at the end of the road he will meet his beautiful lady."

"Anybody who knows Mexico will tell you that there is nothing exaggerated in that incident. The Mexicans are nurtured on cruelty. They cannot resist the temptation to do savage things. When they conquered the Yaqui Indians in their recent uprising the Government officials sent the Yaqui prisoners down to cultivate the henequen fields in the low, flat, deadly plains of Yucatan. Each Yaqui received a ration of one piece of sour dough per day. They were kept at their work until they dropped dead—thousands of them."

"We owe it to humanity to put an end to the hideous disorders in Mexico. The people of Texas are so incensed that I believe they could clean up the country all alone. That, of course, would be unthinkable. But our country, cooperating with the countries of South America, ought to put an end to the orgies of robbery, slaughter and rape that are despoiling Mexico and establish an orderly, decent government there. We must do it, and we ought to do it at once."

Auto Thieves Reap Harvest---\$700,000 Worth of Machines Said to Have Been Stolen

Workings of the Gangs Operating in This City and in Nearly All the Large Cities in the United States

FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS is the estimated value of the automobiles stolen in Greater New York last year and recovered through so-called "rewards" paid to the thieves by insurance companies which had issued policies to owners covering the machines. Perhaps \$200,000 might be added to this amount as the value of automobiles stolen here and not recovered, some of them being insured and others not.

The fact has also been established that while there are several individual gangs of automobile thieves operating in New York city there are others at work in nearly all the large cities in the United States, chiefly in Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Detroit and Newark. Most of them are said to have been committed in New York, Philadelphia and Newark, this, so some insurance adjusters assert, being due to the fact that the police in the three cities named are less efficient in locating and arresting the thieves.

Taking all the cities in the country together it is believed by New York adjusters that the total value of automobiles stolen in the United States last year is not far from \$1,500,000. While there is no countrywide combination of thieves working together under a few men recognized by them as heads, each city has its one or more gangs working separately.

Following the recent arrest of Charles Ruddy, a chauffeur, in New York, who confessed to the District Attorney and to Judge Swann of the Court of General Sessions that he has been acting as a fence for several automobile thieves and has been openly dealing with four insurance adjusters who paid him for the return of stolen automobiles insured by companies they represent, the discovery was made that a premium on crime has been practically set by the insurance companies. The latter are willing to pay thieves for the return of the stolen property, thus effecting a large saving through not having to pay owners of the cars the full face of the policies. The discovery has created a stir.

Ruddy has confessed that so closely has he been working with certain insurance adjusters, notably two, that he had their office and home telephone numbers and they had his telephone number so that when an insured automobile was stolen in New York negotiations could at once be entered into for the return of the machines on the payment of a sum agreed upon.

To such an extent has this practice grown that when a stolen car came into Ruddy's possession it was his custom to telephone at once to these adjusters, saying, "I have a Winton" or a Packard or a Franklin or whatever the make of the car might be, "number so and so, model so and so. Are you looking for it, and what will you give for it?"

If the adjuster on looking up his list of stolen machines found the car mentioned was on it he would inform Ruddy that \$250, \$300, \$400 or whatever the amount might be would be paid for its return. It would then be left at some spot agreed upon, either in an out of the way place in Westchester county or closer by, where it could be obtained by the adjuster, who would then pay a messenger of the fence the amount agreed upon on the presentation of a private identification check. By such an arrangement the company which had insured the car would save the cash difference between the amount of the reward paid and the sum for which the machine was insured.

On other occasions Ruddy or other fences, according to the prisoner's statement, would ship a car to some other city, sometimes as far away as New Orleans, where the chassis and body would be exchanged with those of other stolen cars.

Ruddy's confession has resulted in

strained feelings between the Police Department and the office of the District Attorney, the police resenting the fact that Ruddy was questioned in the office of Assistant District Attorney Deuel, with no opportunity of the police to present, thus shutting them out of the chance to join in the "sweating" of the prisoner and participating in the credit for prosecuting Ruddy and arresting other auto thieves whom he might incite.

Following Ruddy's confession the question has been raised if by offering what was practically a standing reward for stolen automobiles the insurance companies and their adjusters were not violating the law. The act was viewed in some quarters as compounding a felony, while at the same time setting a premium on crime, the money reward being an incentive to thieves to steal cars so that they might obtain the reward.

So serious a view of the situation has been taken by insurance companies that issue policies on automobiles that a meeting of representatives of some of the best known concerns in New York was held last week for the purpose of discussing the advisability of offering no rewards whatever in future and merely putting it up to the police to arrest the thieves and recover the stolen machines. No definite action was taken, but another meeting is to be held this week.

The following point has been raised by the insurance companies and others:

If it is morally, not to say legally, wrong to offer rewards for stolen cars, is it not equally wrong for a person who has lost jewelry or other valuables in the street, the theatre or elsewhere to advertise the loss in newspapers and to offer a reward for the return of the property, adding the words, "No questions asked," which, in itself, is an intimation that the owner believes the property may have been stolen. To do this, they assert, is not contrary to the law, for every person is privileged to pay for the return of anything lost if he chooses to do so. The insurance companies, they argue, are acting in entirely the same spirit as are individuals who are willing to pay money to get back things they have lost.

E. B. Hopwood, an insurance adjuster of 55 John street, who represents several of the larger companies that write policies insuring automobile owners against theft, has paid several rewards for the return of stolen insured cars.

"The stealing of autos that are insured had its inception in New York about five years ago," said Mr. Hopwood. "First the thieves took to 'stripping' cars, stealing lamps, robes and other accessories. Finding the 'graft' so good, the crooks then took to stealing the cars themselves. First the insurance companies offered rewards of only \$100 for the return of insured cars that had been stolen. We got many back at that price."

"Then things reached a point where the thieves, seeing how easy it was to steal a car and realizing that of course the companies were anxious to recover the property, began to raise the prices for which they would agree to return stolen cars. It was a rather difficult matter to detect them and prove the

theft, for they would change the individual numbers stamped in the steel-work of each car so that they could not be identified in that way, while also exchanging the chassis and bodies of cars in such a way that it was difficult always to make a positive identification of the machine."

"Many stolen cars would be sent to other cities, some of them to nearby places under their own power, and then shipped from there to more distant points by railroad."

"It has been the practice of some of the thieves, so bold and fearless have they become, to communicate first with the insurance companies direct, offering to return a stolen insured car for so much money. If their price was too high and the companies refused to deal with them the crooks would then get in touch with insurance adjusters and try to bargain with them. The price asked would be reduced, and as of course the companies were anxious to get the car into their possession so that full loss payment to the owner might be avoided, the adjusters often have gone ahead and paid the amount demanded by these holdup men."

"The principle is wrong, however, and I believe no reward whatever should be offered for the return of stolen cars, leaving it to the police, whose duty it is to find the thieves and arrest them and regain the stolen property."

"But something has to be done to check the stealing of automobiles in New York. Within the last twelve months machines, the total value of which will amount to \$500,000, have been stolen in Greater New York and recovered by insurance companies. Mind you, this does not include the number of cars insured that the companies have not got back, nor the cars not insured that the owners have never seen again. Two hundred thousand dollars is a low estimate, in my opinion, of the value of cars stolen here last year and not recovered."

"New York heads the list of cities in the United States where automobiles have been stolen in 1913 and Philadelphia comes next, although nearly all the large cities in the country are infested by gangs that make a practice of stealing machines, either surrendering them to insurance companies, or sending them to 'fences' in other cities for disposal there. Considering the size of the city, a very large number of automobiles were stolen in Newark last year."

"The responsibility for the large number of auto thefts in New York, Philadelphia and Newark, comparatively larger than in other cities, is because of the inefficiency of the police. Why, Assistant District Attorney Deuel of New York has done more in the last few weeks to round up auto thieves than the New York Police Department has done in a year, and he is not through yet! It is all well enough to say that owners of autos should not leave their machines in the streets or elsewhere unguarded, but what are the police for? People should not be compelled to defend themselves against thieves—it is the duty of the police to do that, and it is for that they are paid."

"Why, as an illustration: A Ford car owned by Dr. N. J. Lebar of 62 West 119th street was stolen about half past nine o'clock on the night of February 4 when standing near the sidewalk at 145th street and St. Nicholas avenue while a policeman stood on post right at that corner. My company has offered a reward of \$100 for the return of that car."

"Other cars for which rewards of \$100 each have been offered are a Cadillac, stolen at 9 o'clock at night on February 5 from in front of 145 West 118th street, and a Ford stolen at a quarter to four in the afternoon on January 15 while standing in Amsterdam avenue near 168th street, and \$250 reward is offered for a Packard car stolen at 10 o'clock at night from in front of 1494 Broadway. I have sent out postcards broadcast offering the rewards mentioned for the return of the cars, but I have heard nothing of them as yet."

"I am strongly in favor of offering no rewards at all for the return of stolen

Practice of Insurance Company Offering Rewards for Return of Stolen Cars Criticised as Setting a Price on Crime

property and also of the passage of a law which would make it a misdemeanor for any person to change the individual number of a car, which is stamped in various places on the metal work of the machine."

Between January 1, 1913, and January 6 last, 258 automobiles were stolen in New York, of which 188 were recovered by the police.

Assistant District Attorney Deuel is also opposed to this policy of insurance companies in offering rewards for the return of stolen cars.

"It is an encouragement for thieves to steal a car to do so," he said.

"Legally the companies have a right to do it, but morally it is a crime. It is not an offense against the law for any person to give a reward for the return of stolen property so long as there is no prior agreement—mark the word—to do so. Business men, like others, are usually willing to pay to get something back which has been taken from them through theft if by doing so they can save losing a larger amount than the reward itself. That, I suppose, is only human nature. The same thing is done in other cases of theft than the stealing of automobiles."

Judge Swann of the Court of General Sessions, before whom and Assistant

District Attorney Deuel Ruddy made a confession, said:

"The offering of a reward for the return of stolen automobiles is a bait to auto thieves. It is a direct invitation to such thieves to go out and steal machines."

"I do not believe that the police have been negligent in their efforts to detect thieves of this class. A policeman is not an expert chauffeur and cannot tell the make of a car a block away, as many expert chauffeurs can easily do."

"The fact is, we put too many burdens on the police, immense as the city of New York is, and with the various duties which are imposed on them in the line of their duties."

"Incidentally, and perhaps as might be expected, all the men brought before me charged with the theft of autos have been chauffeurs. I think that is due, in an extent, to the feeling of power beneath them which many of those who operate autos entertain. Dishonest chauffeurs seem to think they have a special privilege to do what they please with an automobile which is the property of some one else. It is a peculiar phase of the nature of such men."

When the president of one of the largest insurance companies in New York which insures automobiles against

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS

PIANOS

5 Big New Specials

You owe it to yourself to examine these pianos. At the prices quoted they are big bargains. We have sold hundreds of them to satisfied customers.

NEW PIANO \$149
Monthly
NEW PIANO \$175
Monthly
NEW PIANO \$190
Monthly
NEW PIANO \$225
Monthly

FREE STOOL, MUSIC COVER, CANTAGE THIS WEEK.

See Our New Special **PLAYER PIANO \$375**

BENCH, COVER AND 3 ROLLS WITH THIS BEAUTIFUL PLAYER

Used Uprights—Bargains

On So's Monday, March 2d

Exchange Privilege

If you buy a used Piano from us you can return it any time within one year and we will allow you every dollar paid as part of the purchase price on any new upright or Player Piano in our stock. NO INTEREST CHARGES.

\$55 Strohmeier 3 Monthly
95 MORRIS 4 Monthly
135 E. GABLER 4 Monthly
145 THAYER 5 Monthly
150 WOLFNER 5 Monthly
165 IVERS & POND 5 Monthly
175 STERLING 5 Monthly
180 Kroeger & Son 5 Monthly
185 HARVARD CO. 5 Monthly
220 Hazelton Bros. 6 Monthly

3 Monthly Piano

GOETZ & C

11 COURT COR. LIVING ST. & BROADWAY

One block from Borough Hall St. Est. Over 10 Years

OPEN EVENINGS

Phone 6953 Male

It is uncomfortable to feel that you cannot laugh when you want to on account of having poor teeth. Do not have poor teeth. There is absolutely no reason for it. Come to us and we will show you how your teeth can be made perfect and how little it will cost you.

DR. L. J. HOYT, DENTIST

488 Fulton St., near Jay or Smith St., Bklyn. Do not mistake the number.

Beautiful artificial gum sets of teeth, \$8.50 set and \$12.00 set. Extracting teeth, \$1.00. Filled, \$1.00. Estimates given. Painless. All work GUARANTEED.

thief was asked how he regarded the payment to thieves of rewards for the return of stolen cars from the standpoint of good morals, he replied:

"There are two ways in which to look at that, as I see it. Of course no honest man or firm condones crime or believes in the compounding of a felony, but any sound business concern must view certain things from a business standpoint."

"If we insure a car worth \$5,000 for \$2,000 and that car being stolen we can recover it for some \$300 or \$400 reward we naturally save \$1,600 or \$1,700. We are in business, like any other concern, to make money, not to lose it, and when we can do so by the payment of a small sum, although such payment may be forced from us, we regard it as our business duty to take advantage of the opportunity."

A Missouri Cave Dweller.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Feb. 28.—The constable of Roaring River township, in Barry county, has discovered a cave dweller. His name is Elijah Shrum and he is under arrest on a charge of having cut timber from land not his own.

Mr. Shrum has lived in a cave in Roaring River township with his two small sons for three years. An old stove supplied heat. Leaves were used for bedding. Father and sons lived on what they could catch in the streams and trap in the woods.

Did You Ever Cry for the Moon?

That's what the uncouth, multi-millionaire Blithers does in the second instalment of

George Barr McCutcheon's newest, best seller, "The Prince of Graustark"

It's a cry for a social "moon" in the shape of a prince whom he wants for a son-in-law. The instalment in the Semi-Monthly Magazine of next Sunday's Sun fairly sparkles with brightness and provides wholesome and endless amusement throughout.

So many of our readers have made known their keen enjoyment of those Lord Stranleigh stories by Robert Barr that we feel the last of them, which is published in the Semi-Monthly Magazine next Sunday, will be finished with regret. "The End of the Contest" is a fitting climax to these unique adventures. It hinges on a Wild West auction sale punctuated with pistols and excitement, and the other happenings make it the best of them all.

You will read the further "Confessions of a Washington Lobbyist" word for word. It grips from the outset and gets you behind the scenes of the big legislative game in Washington

in Next SUNDAY'S SUN



Justice Edward Swann.